United Nations CEDAW/C/2001/I/1

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Distr.: General
17 November 2000

Original: English

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
Twenty-fourth session
15 January-2 February 2001

Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the session.
2. Solemn declaration by the new members of the Committee.
3. Election of officers.
4. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
5. Report of the Chairperson on activities undertaken between the twenty-third and twenty-fourth sessions of the Committee.
6. Consideration of the reports submitted by States parties under article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
7. Implementation of article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
8. Ways and means of expediting the work of the Committee.
9. Provisional agenda for the twenty-fifth session.
10. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its twenty-fourth session.

Annotations

Item 1. Opening of the session

The twenty-fourth session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women will be opened by the representative of the Secretary-General.

Item 2. Solemn declaration by the new members of the Committee

According to rule 10 of the rules of procedure of the Committee, new members of the Committee shall make the solemn declaration contained in that rule.

00-77008 (E) 211200

Item 3. Election of officers

The Committee shall elect a Chairperson, three Vice-Chairpersons and a Rapporteur for a term of two years, according to rules 13 and 14 of its rules of procedure and article 19 of the Convention. The term of the officers elected by the Committee at its twenty-fourth session, on 15 January 2001, will expire 31 December 2002. Under rule 43, paragraph 1, of the rules of procedure, if there is an agreed slate, the candidates may be elected by acclamation, without the holding of a secret ballot.

Item 4. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Rule 7 of the rules of procedure provides that the agenda shall be adopted by the Committee at the beginning of its meetings. Rule 5 provides that the provisional agenda for each session shall be prepared by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Chairperson, in conformity with the relevant provisions of articles 17 to 22 of the Convention, giving priority to items the inclusion of which was decided at a previous session of the Committee.

At its twenty-third session the Committee approved the provisional agenda for its twenty-fourth session.

The Committee has, since its sixth session, set up two standing working groups, namely Working Group I, to consider and suggest ways and means of expediting the work of the Committee, and Working Group II, to consider ways and means of implementing article 21 of the Convention. At its seventh session, the Committee decided to keep the membership of the working groups flexible. At its eleventh session, the Committee decided that the working groups should be open only to members of the Committee, in accordance with past practice. Specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations that could make substantive contributions to questions under consideration could be invited by the working group to contribute to its deliberations. The proposed organization of work for the session is shown in the annex to the present document.

Documentation

Provisional agenda and annotations (CEDAW/C/2001/I/1)

Item 5. Report of the Chairperson on activities undertaken between the twenty-third and twenty-fourth sessions of the Committee

Under this item the Chairperson will brief the Committee on activities and events occurring since the previous session that had a bearing on the Committee's work.

Item 6. Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discriminations against Women

Article 18 of the Convention provides that States parties to the Convention shall undertake to submit to the Secretary-General, for consideration by the Committee, a report on the legislative, judicial, administrative or other measures which they have adopted to give effect to the provisions of the Convention and other progress made in this respect. Reports are to be submitted within one year after the entry into force of the Convention for the State concerned and thereafter at least every four years and further whenever the Committee requests.

At its twenty-third session, the Committee, taking into account the criteria of preference to be given to those States parties whose reports had been pending for the longest time, the need to give priority to initial reports and the desirability of balance of reports in terms of geographic and other factors, decided to invite eight States parties to present their reports. Eight States parties agreed to this request.

At its twenty-fourth session, the Committee will have before it the following reports: the initial report of Burundi (CEDAW/C/BDI/1), the initial report of Kazakhstan (CEDAW/C/KAZ/1), the initial report of Maldives (CEDAW/C/MDV/1), the initial report of Uzbekistan (CEDAW/C/UZB/1), the third and combined fourth and fifth periodic reports of Egypt (CEDAW/C/EGY/3 and CEDAW/C/EGY/4-5), the third and fourth periodic reports of Finland (CEDAW/C/FIN/3 and CEDAW/C/FIN/4), the combined third and fourth periodic reports of Mongolia (CEDAW/C/MNG/3-4) and the combined second, third and fourth periodic reports of Jamaica (CEDAW/C/JAM/2-4).

Rule 49 of the rules of procedure provides that representatives of a State party shall be present at meetings of the Committee when the report of the State is being examined and shall participate in discussions and answer questions concerning the reports. The Secretary-General has informed the States parties concerned of the tentative dates on which their reports are scheduled for consideration by the Committee at its twenty-fourth session.

Rule 47 of the rules of procedure provides that at each session the Secretary-General shall notify the Committee of non-receipt of any report required from a State party under article 18 of the Convention. The Secretary-General also provides the Committee with a list of reports submitted by States parties to the Convention that have not yet been considered by the Committee. The Committee at its twenty-fourth session will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the submission of the reports by States parties under article 18 of the Convention (CEDAW/C/2001/I/2).

The Committee decided at its ninth session that a pre-session working group should be convened before each session to prepare a list of issues and questions relating to periodic reports for transmission to the representatives of States parties before the meetings at which their reports were to be considered. At its nineteenth session, the Committee decided that the pre-session working group would meet at the end of the session prior to which second and subsequent reports would be considered. The pre-session working group for the twenty-fourth session met in New York from 3-7 July 2000. The report of the pre-session working group and the responses of States parties to the list of issues and questions drawn up by the pre-session working group will be before the Committee.

Documentation

Initial report of Burundi (CEDAW/C/BDI/1)

Initial report of Kazakhstan (CEDAW/C/KAZ/1)

Initial report of Maldives (CEDAW/C/MDV/1)

Initial report of Uzbekistan (CEDAW/C/UZB/1)

Third and combined fourth and fifth periodic reports of Egypt (CEDAW/C/EGY/3 and CEDAW/C/EGY/4-5)

Third and fourth periodic reports of Finland (CEDAW/C/FIN/3 and CEDAW/C/FIN/4)

Combined third and fourth periodic reports of Mongolia (CEDAW/C/MNG/3-4)

Combined second, third and fourth periodic reports of Jamaica (CEDAW/C/JAM/2-4)

Report of the pre-session working group (CEDAW/PSWG/2001/I/CRP.1 and Add.1 (Jamaica), Add.2 (Mongolia), Add.3 (Finland), and Add.4 (Egypt))

Responses to list of issues (CEDAW/PSWG/2001/I/CRP.2 (Finland) and Add.1 (Jamaica), Add.2 (Mongolia) and Add.3 (Egypt))

Item 7. Implementation of article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Article 21 of the Convention provides that the Committee may make suggestions and general recommendations based on the examination of the reports and information received from States parties. It also provides that such suggestions and general recommendations shall be included in the report of the Committee together with comments, if any, from States parties. Rule 48 of the rules of procedure provides that those suggestions and general recommendations shall be communicated by the Committee, through the Secretary-General, to the States parties for their comments.

At its tenth session, the Committee decided to provide, under the agenda item entitled "Implementation of article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women", opportunities for specialists from the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies to present to the Committee in plenary information related to specific articles of the Convention or to issues being considered for general recommendations and suggestions.

At the same session, the Committee decided to select and review specific articles and other issues to be considered at subsequent sessions as a long-term programme, without prejudice to any changes that might be necessary as a result of new developments and priorities arising from the review of the reports of States parties.

Article 22 of the Convention provides that the specialized agencies shall be entitled to be represented during the consideration of the implementation of such provisions of the Convention as fall within the scope of their activities and that the Committee may invite the specialized agencies to submit reports on the implementation of the Convention in those areas. The Committee at its twenty-fourth session will have before it a note by the Secretary-General on reports of specialized agencies on that subject (CEDAW/C/2001/I/3 and addenda).

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General on reports of specialized agencies on the implementation of the Convention in areas falling within the scope of their activities (CEDAW/C/2001/I/3)

Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (CEDAW/C/2001/I/3/Add.1)

Report of the World Health Organization (CEDAW/C/2001/I/3/Add.2)

Report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (CEDAW/C/2001/I/3/Add.3)

Report of the International Labour Organization (CEDAW/C/2001/I/3/Add.4)

Item 8. Ways and means of expediting the work of the Committee

At its twelfth session, the Committee decided that the Secretariat should prepare every year, as a pre-session document, a report on ways and means of improving the work of the Committee containing information provided by the Secretariat, comments made by members of the Committee or developments elsewhere in the human rights regime. In view of the fact that the Committee has been authorized to hold two sessions annually, the Secretariat has decided to provide the Committee with a report on ways and means at each session (CEDAW/C/2001/I/4)

At its twenty-third session, the Committee decided to adopt the revised rules of procedure contained in document CEDAW/C/2000/II/WG.1/WP.1 as to substance but, subject to editing, the rules of procedure would be adopted in final form at the twenty-fourth session.

The Committee has also met in an expert meeting to consider its proposed draft rules of procedure with regard to the Optional Protocol to the Convention which entered into force on 22 December 2000. The proposed draft rules of procedure will be annexed to the report on ways and means (CEDAW/C/2001/I/4).

Documentation

Report of the Secretariat on ways and means of improving the work of the Committee (CEDAW/C/2001/I/4)

Item 9. Provisional agenda for the twenty-fifth session

At its tenth session, the Committee decided that the draft provisional agenda for the following session of the Committee would be approved at the end of each session.

Documentation

Draft provisional agenda for the twenty-fifth session of the Committee.

Item 10. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its twenty-fourth session

Annex

Proposed organization of work

Date/time	*Agenda item*	*Documentation/programme*
Monday, 15 January 2001		
486th meeting		
10.00 a.m.	**Item 1**	**Opening of the session**
	Item 2	**Solemn declaration by the new members of the Committee**
	Item 3	**Election of officers**
	Item 4	**Adoption of the agenda and organization of work**
	Item 5	**Report of the Chairperson on activities undertaken between the twenty-third and twenty-fourth sessions of the Committee**
	Item 7	**Implementation of article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women: introductory statement**
	Item 8	**Ways and means of expediting the work of the Committee: introductory statement**
3.00 p.m. (closed)	**Items 7 and 8** (continued)	Working Group of the Whole: composition of Working Groups I and II and issues for discussion
Tuesday, 16 January 2001		
10.00-11.30 a.m. (closed)		Informational meeting with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies
11.30-1.00 p.m. (closed)	**Items 7 and 8** (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
3.00-4.30 p.m.		Informal meeting with non-governmental organizations
4.30-6.00 p.m. (closed)	**Item 7** (continued)	Open discussion on general recommendation 25
Wednesday, 17 January 2001		
487th meeting		
10.00-10.30 a.m. (closed)	**Item 6**	**Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women**
		Burundi, initial report (CEDAW/C/BDI/1)
10.30-11.30 a.m.		Introduction by State party's representative

Date/time	*Agenda item*	*Documentation/programme*
11.30 a.m.-1.00 p.m.		Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
488th meeting		
3.00 p.m.	**Item 6** (continued)	Burundi (continued)
(closed)	**Items 7 and 8** (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
Thursday, 18 January 2001		
489th meeting		
10.00-10.30 a.m. (closed)	**Item 6** (continued)	Kazakhstan, initial report (CEDAW/C/KAZ/1)
10.30-11.30 a.m.		Introduction by State party's representative
11.30 a.m.-1.00 p.m.		Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
490th meeting		
3.00 p.m.	**Item 6** (continued)	Kazakhstan (continued)
(closed)	**Items 7 and 8** (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
Friday, 19 January 2001		
491st meeting		
10.00-10.30 a.m. (closed)	**Item 6** (continued)	Egypt, third and combined fourth and fifth periodic reports (CEDAW/C/EGY/3 and CEDAW/C/EGY/4-5)
10.30-11.15 a.m.		Introduction by State party's representative
11.15 a.m.-1.00 p.m.		Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
492nd meeting		
3.00 p.m.	**Item 6** (continued)	Egypt (continued)
(closed)	**Items 7 and 8** (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
Monday, 22 January 2001		
493rd meeting		
10.00-10.30 a.m. (closed)	**Item 6** (continued)	Finland, third and fourth periodic reports (CEDAW/C/FIN/3 and CEDAW/C/FIN/4)
10.30-11.30 a.m.		Introduction by State party's representative
11.30 a.m.-1.00 p.m.		Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
494th meeting		
3.00 p.m.	**Item 6** (continued)	Finland (continued)
(closed)	**Items 7 and 8** (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
Tuesday, 23 January 2001		
495th meeting		
10.00 a.m.	**Item 6** (continued)	Replies (Burundi)

Date/time	*Agenda item*	*Documentation/programme*
496th meeting		
3.00 p.m.	**Item 6** (continued)	Replies (Kazakhstan)
Wednesday, 24 January 2001		
497th meeting		
10.00-10.30 a.m. (closed)	**Item 6** (continued)	Maldives, initial report (CEDAW/C/MDV/1)
10.30-11.30 a.m.		Introduction by State party's representative
11.30 a.m.-1.00 p.m.		Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
498th meeting		
3.00 p.m.	**Item 6** (continued)	Maldives (continued)
(closed)	**Items 7 and 8** (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
Thursday, 25 January 2001		
499th meeting		
10.00-10.30 a.m. (closed)	**Item 6** (continued)	Uzbekistan, initial report (CEDAW/C/UZB/1)
10.30-11.30 a.m.		Introduction by State party's representative
11.30 a.m.-1.00 p.m.		Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
500th meeting		
3.00 p.m.	**Item 6** (continued)	Uzbekistan (continued)
(closed)	**Items 7 and 8** (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
Friday, 26 January 2001		
501st meeting		
10.00-10.30 a.m. (closed)	**Item 6** (continued)	Jamaica, combined second, third and fourth periodic reports (CEDAW/C/JAM/2-4)
10.30-11.30 a.m.		Introduction by State party's representative
11.30 a.m.-1.00 p.m.		Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
502nd meeting		
3.00 p.m.	**Item 6** (continued)	Jamaica (continued)
(closed)	**Items 7 and 8** (continued)	Working Group of the Whole

Date/time	*Agenda item*	*Documentation/programme*
Monday, 29 January 2001		
503rd meeting		
10.00-10.30 a.m. (closed)	**Item 6** (continued)	Mongolia, combined third and fourth periodic reports (CEDAW/C/MNG/3-4)
10.30-11.30 a.m.		Introduction by State party's representative
11.30 a.m.-1.00 p.m.		Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
504th meeting		
3.00 p.m.	**Item 6** (continued)	Mongolia (continued)
Tuesday, 30 January 2001		
505th meeting		
10.00 a.m.	**Item 6** (continued)	Replies (Maldives)
506th meeting		
3.00 p.m.	**Item 6** (continued)	Replies (Uzbekistan)
Wednesday, 31 January 2001		
10.00 a.m. (closed)	**Item 6** (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
3.00 p.m. (closed)	**Item 6** (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
Thursday, 1 February 2001		
10.00 a.m. (closed)	**Item 6** (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
3.00 p.m. (closed)	**Item 6** (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
Friday, 2 February 2001		
10.00 a.m. (closed)	**Item 6** (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
507th meeting		
3.00 p.m.	**Items 7 and 8** (continued)	Adoption of the reports of Working Groups I and II
	Item 9	**Provisional agenda for the twenty-fifth session**
	Item 10	**Adoption of the report of the Committee on its twenty-fourth session**

United Nations CEDAW/C/2001/I/2

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Distr.: General
1 November 2000

Original: English

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
Twenty-fourth session
15 January-2 February 2001
Item 4 of the provisional agenda*
Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Status of submission of reports by States parties under article 18 of the Convention

Report of the Secretary-General

1. Article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women provides that States parties shall undertake to submit to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, for consideration by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, a report on the legislative, judicial, administrative or other measures that they have adopted to give effect to the provisions of the Convention and on the progress made in that respect. Reports are to be submitted within one year after the entry into force of the Convention for the State concerned and thereafter at least every four years, and further whenever the Committee so requests.

2. Rule 47 of the rules of procedure of the Committee provides that, at each session, the Secretary-General shall notify the Committee of the non-receipt of any report required from a State party under article 18 of the Convention. Annex I to the present report lists the States parties whose reports were overdue at 1 November 2000.

3. Annex II lists the reports submitted by States parties up to 1 November 2000 that have not yet been considered by the Committee.

* CEDAW/C/2001/I/1.

00-72482 (E) 061200

Annex I

States parties whose reports are due and have not yet been submitted to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

A. Initial reports

State party	*Date due*
Albania	10 June 1995
Angola	17 October 1987
Bahamas	5 November 1994
Benin	11 April 1993
Bhutan	30 September 1982
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1 October 1994
Botswana	12 September 1997
Brazil	2 March 1985
Cambodia	14 November 1993
Cape Verde	3 September 1982
Central African Republic	21 July 1992
Chad	9 July 1996
Comoros	30 November 1995
Congo	25 August 1983
Costa Rica	4 May 1987
Côte d'Ivoire	17 January 1997
Djibouti	2 January 2000
Dominica	3 September 1982
Eritrea	5 October 1996
Estonia	20 November 1992
Gambia	16 May 1994
Grenada	29 September 1991
Guinea-Bissau	22 September 1986
Haiti	3 September 1982
Kuwait	2 October 1995
Lao People's Democratic Republic	13 September 1982
Latvia	14 May 1993
Lebanon	21 May 1998

State party	*Date due*
Lesotho	21 September 1996
Liberia	16 August 1985
Malaysia	4 August 1996
Malta	7 April 1992
Mozambique	16 May 1998
Pakistan	11 May 1997
Papua New Guinea	11 February 1996
Saint Kitts and Nevis	25 May 1986
Saint Lucia	7 November 1983
Samoa	25 October 1993
Seychelles	4 June 1993
Sierra Leone	11 December 1989
Suriname	31 March 1994
Switzerland	26 April 1998
Tajikistan	25 October 1994
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	17 February 1995
Togo	26 October 1984
Trinidad and Tobago	11 February 1991
Turkmenistan	31 May 1998
Vanuatu	8 October 1996

B. Second periodic reports

Albania	10 June 1999
Angola	17 October 1991
Azerbaijan	9 August 2000
Bahamas	5 November 1998
Benin	11 April 1997
Bhutan	30 September 1986
Bolivia	8 July 1995
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1 October 1998
Brazil	2 March 1989
Burundi	7 February 1997
Cambodia	14 November 1997
Cameroon	22 September 1999

State party	*Date due*
Guatemala	11 September 1991
Guinea	8 September 1991
Guinea-Bissau	22 September 1994
Guyana	3 September 1990
Haiti	3 September 1990
Lao People's Democratic Republic	13 September 1990
Liberia	16 August 1993
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	15 June 1998
Madagascar	16 April 1998
Malawi	11 April 1996
Mali	10 October 1994
Malta	7 April 2000
Mauritius	8 August 1993
Nepal	22 May 2000
Netherlands	22 August 2000
Paraguay	6 May 1996
Saint Kitts and Nevis	25 May 1994
Saint Lucia	7 November 1991
Senegal	7 March 1994
Sierra Leone	11 December 1997
Togo	26 October 1992
Trinidad and Tobago	11 February 1999
Zimbabwe	12 June 2000

D. Fourth periodic reports

Angola	17 October 1999
Australia	27 August 1996
Barbados	3 September 1995
Belarus	3 September 1994
Bhutan	30 September 1994
Brazil	2 March 1997
Bulgaria	10 March 1995
Cape Verde	3 September 1994
Congo	25 August 1995

State party	*Date due*
Costa Rica	4 May 1999
Cyprus	22 August 1998
Democratic Republic of the Congo[1]	16 November 1999
Dominica	3 September 1994
Ecuador	9 December 1994
El Salvador	18 September 1994
Equatorial Guinea	22 November 1997
Ethiopia	10 October 1994
France	13 January 1997
Gabon	20 February 1996
Ghana	1 February 1999
Greece	7 July 1996
Guatemala	11 September 1995
Guinea	8 September 1995
Guinea-Bissau	22 September 1998
Guyana	3 September 1994
Haiti	3 September 1994
Honduras	2 April 1996
Indonesia	13 October 1997
Iraq	12 September 1999
Ireland	22 January 1999
Italy	10 July 1998
Lao People's Democratic Republic	13 September 1994
Liberia	16 August 1997
Malawi	11 April 2000
Mali	10 October 1998
Mauritius	8 August 1997
Nigeria	13 July 1998
Panama	28 November 1994
Paraguay	6 May 2000
Poland	3 September 1994
Rwanda	3 September 1994
Saint Kitts and Nevis	25 May 1998
Saint Lucia	7 November 1995

State party	*Date due*
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	3 September 1994
Senegal	7 March 1998
Thailand	8 September 1998
Togo	26 October 1996
Turkey	19 January 1999
Turkmenistan	3 May 2000
Uganda	21 August 1998
United Republic of Tanzania	19 September 1998
Uruguay	8 November 1994
Venezuela	1 June 1996
Yugoslavia	28 March 1995

E. Fifth periodic reports

Australia	27 August 2000
Barbados	3 September 1999
Belarus	3 September 1998
Bhutan	30 September 1998
Bulgaria	10 March 1999
Canada	9 January 1999
Cape Verde	3 September 1998
China	3 September 1998
Colombia	18 February 1999
Congo	25 August 1999
Croatia	9 October 2000
Cuba	3 September 1998
Dominica	3 September 1998
Dominican Republic	2 September 1999
Ecuador	9 December1998
El Salvador	18 September 1998
Ethiopia	10 October 1998
Gabon	20 February 2000
Gambia	16 May 2000
Greece	7 July 2000
Guatemala	11 September 1999

State party	*Date due*
Guinea	8 September 1999
Guyana	3 September 1998
Haiti	3 September 1998
Honduras	2 April 2000
Lao People's Democratic Republic	13 September 1998
Mexico	3 September 1998
Mongolia	3 September 1998
Panama	28 November 1998
Philippines	4 September 1998
Poland	3 September 1998
Portugal	3 September 1998
Rwanda	3 September 1998
Saint Lucia	7 November 1999
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	3 September 1998
Sri Lanka	4 November 1998
Sweden	3 September 1998
Togo	26 October 2000
Uruguay	8 November 1998
Venezuela	1 June 2000
Viet Nam	19 March 1999
Yugoslavia	28 March 1999

[a] By a communication dated 20 May 1997, the Secretariat was informed by the Member State formerly known as Zaire that the name of the State had been changed to the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Annex II

States parties whose reports have been submitted but have not yet been considered by the Committee

State party	*Date due*	*Date received*	*Document symbol*
A. Initial reports			
Andorra	14 February 1998	23 June 2000	CEDAW/C/AND/1
Fiji	27 September 1996	29 February 2000	CEDAW/C/FIJ/1
Guinea	8 September 1983	4 August 2000	CEDAW/C/GIN/1
Singapore [a] [b]	4 November 1996	30 November 1999	CEDAW/C/SGP/1
B. Second periodic reports			
Armenia [b]	13 October 1998	23 August 1999	CEDAW/C/ARM/2
Equatorial Guinea [b]	22 November 1989	6 January 1994	CEDAW/C/GNQ/2-3
Guyana [a] [b]	3 September 1986	20 September 1999	CEDAW/C/GUY/2
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya [b]	15 June 1990	18 February 1999	CEDAW/C/LBY/2
Netherlands [a] [b]	22 August 1996	10 December 1998	CEDAW/C/NET/2/ Add.1 and 2
Slovenia [b]	5 August 1997	26 April 1999	CEDAW/C/SVN/2
Uruguay	8 November 1986	8 February 1998	CEDAW/C/URY/2-3
Viet Nam [a] [b]	19 March 1987	2 February 1999	CEDAW/C/VNM/2
C. Third periodic reports			
Belgium [b]	9 August 1994	29 October 1998	CEDAW/C/BEL/3-4
Equatorial Guinea [b]	22 November 1993	6 January 1994	CEDAW/C/GNQ/2-3
France [b]	13 January 1993	5 October 1999	CEDAW/C/FRA/3
Iceland [b]	3 July 1994	15 July 1998	CEDAW/C/ICE/3-4
Kenya	8 April 1993	5 January 2000	CEDAW/C/KEN/3-4
Sri Lanka	4 November 1990	7 October 1999	CEDAW/C/LKA/3-4
Tunisia	20 October 1994	1 June 2000	CEDAW/C/TUN/3-4
Uganda	21 August 1994	22 May 2000	CEDAW/C/UGA/3
Uruguay	8 November 1990	3 February 1998	CEDAW/C/URY/2-3
Viet Nam [a] [b]	19 March 1991	6 October 2000	CEDAW/C/VNM/3-4
Yugoslavia [b]	28 March 1991	14 October 1998	CEDAW/C/YUG/3
Zambia [b]	21 July 1994	12 August 1999	CEDAW/C/ZAM/3-4

State party	*Date due*	*Date received*	*Document symbol*
D. Fourth periodic reports			
Argentina	14 August 1998	18 January 2000	CEDAW/C/ARG/4
Belgium [b]	9 August 1994	29 October 1998	CEDAW/C/BEL/3-4
Denmark [b]	21 May 1996	9 January 1997	CEDAW/C/DEN/4
Hungary	3 September 1994	19 September 2000	CEDAW/C/HUN/4-5
Iceland [b]	3 July 1998	15 July 1998	CEDAW/C/ICE/3-4
Japan [b]	25 July 1998	24 July 1998	CEDAW/C/JPN/4
Kenya	8 April 1997	5 January 2000	CEDAW/C/KEN/3-4
Nicaragua [a]	26 November 1994	16 June 1998	CEDAW/C/NIC/4
Portugal [b]	3 September 1994	25 October 1999	CEDAW/C/PRT/4
Sri Lanka	4 November 1994	7 October 1999	CEDAW/C/LKA/3-4
Sweden [a b]	3 September 1994	21 May 1996	CEDAW/C/SWE/4
Tunisia	20 October 1998	1 June 2000	CEDAW/C/TUN/3-4
Ukraine [b]	3 September 1994	2 August 1999	CEDAW/C/UKR/4-5
Viet Nam [a]	19 March 1995	6 October 2000	CEDAW/C/VNM/3-4
Yemen	29 June 1997	8 March 2000	CEDAW/C/YEM/4
Zambia [b]	21 July 1998	12 August 1999	CEDAW/C/ZAM/3-4
E. Fifth periodic reports			
Denmark	21 May 2000	13 June 2000	CEDAW/C/DEN/5
Hungary	3 September 1998	19 September 2000	CEDAW/C/HUN/4-5
Nicaragua [a]	26 November 1998	2 September 1999	CEDAW/C/NIC/5
Norway	3 September 1998	23 March 2000	CEDAW/C/NOR/5
Peru	13 October 1999	21 July 2000	CEDAW/C/PER/5
Russian Federation [b]	3 September 1998	3 March 1999	CEDAW/C/USR/5
Ukraine [b]	30 September 1998	2 August 1999	CEDAW/C/UKR/4-5

[a] Reports to be considered by the Committee at its twenty-fifth session, to be held in New York in July 2001.

[b] Reports that have been translated, reproduced and made available in all official languages.

United Nations CEDAW/C/2001/I/3

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Distr.: General
19 December 2000

Original: English

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
Twenty-fourth session
15 January-2 February 2001
Item 7 of the provisional agenda*
Implementation of article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Reports provided by specialized agencies of the United Nations on the implementation of the Convention in areas falling within the scope of their activities

Note by the Secretary-General

In accordance with article 22 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (General Assembly resolution 34/180, annex, specialized agencies of the United Nations have been invited to submit to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women at its twenty-fourth session, reports on the implementation of the Convention in areas falling within the scope of their activities. The reports will be issued as addenda to the present document.

* CEDAW/C/2001/I/1.

00-80614 (E) 221200

United Nations CEDAW/C/2001/I/3/Add.1

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Distr.: General
11 December 2000
English
Original: English/Spanish

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
Twenty-fourth session
15 January-2 February 2001
Item 7 of the provisional agenda
Implementation of article 22 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Report provided by the specialized agencies of the United Nations on the Implementation of the Convention in areas falling within the scope of their activities

Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

1. On behalf of the Committee, the Secretariat invited the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), on 16 October 2000, to submit to the Committee a report on information provided by States to FAO on the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in areas falling within the scope of its activities, which would supplement the information contained in the reports of the States parties to the Convention that will be considered at the twenty-fourth session. Annexed to the present note are country briefs prepared by FAO.

2. Other information sought by the Committee refers to activities, programmes and policy decisions undertaken by FAO to promote the implementation of the Convention.

3. The reports annexed hereto were submitted in compliance with the Committee's request.

00-80620 (E) 110101 120101

Annex

Country briefs submitted to FAO on the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Burundi

The agricultural sector in Burundi provides 50 per cent of the GDP and employs 94 per cent of the active economic labour force. In recent years, the performance of the sector has been decreasing — 3 per cent for food crops and 17 per cent for beans, which are the staple food. This is due mainly to drought, the increase of plant diseases and civil unrest.

FAO has been requested to formulate a national strategy on food security, which will coordinate all sectoral policies and strengthen national capacity on natural resources management and planning. It will concern, in particular, the issues of access to land and the updating of the legislation on land tenure, forests and swamp areas. Social equity and gender equality are important dimensions of the above activities.

FAO also participated in the inter-agency effort to design a policy for the economic recovery of the country. Three main areas were identified:

(a) Promotion of peace and human rights;

(b) Access to basic services;

(c) Development of rural areas.

Some measures, including off-farm activities such as handicraft and brick-making, are proposed as means to diversify the rural economy and provide labour for rural populations, in particular, youth.

FAO's support, through both its technical cooperation programme and funding from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and bilateral agencies, has concentrated on the following areas:

(a) Food security;

(b) Natural resource management and environment rehabilitation programmes;

(c) Humanitarian assistance;

(d) Policy formulation on rural development.

The FAO gender programme is implementing three subregional programmes in east and southern Africa.

The first one deals with gender, biodiversity and local knowledge systems to strengthen agriculture and rural development. The global aim is to increase understanding among rural people, development workers and policy makers about the value of men's and women's distinct knowledge and skills to the management of agro-biodiversity for food security and to strengthen the capacity of key partner

The second one develops and tests an integrated sustainable development framework and strategy that address poverty alleviation in the context of participation, information and communication, capacity-building, equal opportunities and resource management.

The third one is focused on the training of trainers on the methodology of socio-economic and gender analysis. Although Burundi is not in the first list of pilot countries, the results of the above initiatives are intended to be disseminated and applied in other countries of the subregion, as appropriate.

Uzbekistan

Uzbekistan benefits from the overall gender programme in Central and Eastern Europe. The activities focus on three aspects:

(a) Improvement of the knowledge base on men's and women's contribution to the agricultural economy. A pilot methodology for collection of data, disaggregated by sex, from the agricultural sector is being designed for extensive use in the subregion;

(b) Preparation of a national action plan for the integration of rural women into agricultural and rural development. Several subregional seminars have taken place, using the socio-economic and gender analysis tools to sensitize development specialists and decision makers and upgrade their skills on participatory and gender-responsive planning.

(c) Training of trainers on socio-economic and gender analysis. Two gender specialists from the country were introduced to this methodology at FAO headquarters. Relevant materials have been translated into Russian and are being used by non-governmental organizations and in governmental structures.

Maldives

Since Maldives depends heavily on the import of food, especially vegetables and poultry products, FAO has given top priority to the implementation of a special programme on food security to enhance local food production. In that framework a national plan of operation and a national plan document were prepared and approved by the Government. Emphasis is put on agricultural intensification and water control. The expected results are the improvement of the nutritional status and food security of the population.

Furthermore, FAO is executing several other projects aiming at increasing agricultural production, including fisheries. Some projects, such as the "establishment" of fruit and vegetable plots for the Women's Committee are benefiting rural women directly and enhancing their income-generating opportunities and the food security of their families. Others, such as the establishment of community vegetable and fruit tree nurseries and community poultry development are intended to increase food production at the local level.

Nicaragua

The activities of FAO in the Latin American and Caribbean region fall within the strategic areas and needs identified as priority for the advancement of women and form part of the FAO Plan of Action in support of rural women. The emphasis is focused on the promotion of institutional changes in the drawing up of development policies and strategies so as to enable the State to respond to the different requirements of men and women as a central axis of development strategy.

Within this framework, during the period from 1999 to June 2000 FAO provided technical assistance to the Nicaraguan Institute for Women (INIM) through the implementation of the project "Establishment of a programme for rural women" (TCP/NIC/8923), the objective of which was to support the Government in establishing a programme for rural women. The programme seeks to contribute to rural development from a gender perspective with a view to reducing rural poverty, improving food security and strengthening INIM as the lead entity in the formulation of policies in support of Nicaraguan women.

It should also be pointed out that, through the project activities, support will be given to the Nicaraguan Institute of Statistics and Censuses in the revision of the census form for the next national agricultural census in order to incorporate changes making it possible to break down some variables by sex and to incorporate other gender considerations. At the same time, the project will support the Office of the First Lady in the preparation of needs assessments in the municipalities of La Conquista and Santa Teresa, thus facilitating the obtaining of funding for poor women in the area.

In order to support the process of understanding the situation of women in the context of land tenure in Nicaragua, FAO, in coordination with the University of Pavia, has initiated a case study on women and the right to land. This study analyses the advances and obstacles encountered in the process of the granting of individual and community land deeds to women under the agrarian reform programmes implemented over the last 30 years.

Among the preliminary conclusions, mention may be made of institutional advances at various points in the process, either through legal changes that have recognized women as co-owners with men as heads of households in the case of homes or as individual owners, or in some cases through women's cooperatives. In spite of these advances, it is clear that the lack of implementing regulations in the case of some laws, as well other institutional and cultural factors, mean that in practice the impact of those measures has not resulted in substantial changes.

In actuality, the functioning of the land markets seems to be the basic mechanism for the acquisition of agricultural land. Peasants have access to land through the sales market and through rental. In this context, women continue to have limited access to land, owing to the difficulties of obtaining institutional credit, as well as the prevalence of cultural patterns that inhibit the entrepreneurial and productive role of women.

In support for the strengthening of national capacities in the area of gender analysis in the agricultural sector, FAO conducted, with the support of INIM and ANDAR, a seminar on the training of trainers on socio-economic and gender analysis for Central American professionals. The event was organized from 2 to 13

October 2000 in Managua, Nicaragua, with the participation of nine countries in support for the national plans for the promotion of gender equity and for the advancement of women arising out of the Platform for Action adopted at Beijing (1995) at the Fourth World Conference on Women.

The seminar was organized as a part of the activities for inter-agency cooperation between FAO and the World Food Programme (WFP), with the aim of strengthening capacities of persons working in rural sector institutions on the identification and formulation of policies, programmes and projects with gender perspectives. Thus, the training of trainers on socio-economic and gender analysis gave an opportunity to representatives of countries of the region to enhance their knowledge of gender themes, improve the use of adequate tools to integrate socio-economic and gender aspects in development processes and establish strategic alliances with regional partners.

The main objective of the seminar was to strengthen understanding of the conceptual and analytical framework of socio-economic and gender analysis and to facilitate the use of practical tools to support the mainstreaming of the gender perspective in programmes, projects, institutions and policies in the rural sector.

Viet Nam

Viet Nam remains a predominantly agrarian society. As much as 80 per cent of the total population live in rural areas and two thirds of them depend on farming for their living. The performance of the Vietnamese economy has recently deteriorated, reflecting structural weaknesses compounded by the impact of the regional crisis. Due to this, in 1997 rural growth slowed, and income inequality has risen. Although the country is, on the whole, food secure (gross output food per capita in 1997 was 398 kg), poverty is still widespread, mainly among the ethnic minorities in the hilly and mountainous areas and among the most vulnerable segments of the population (children, women, disabled, elderly). The average GNP per capita was estimated at around US$ 350 per annum in 1998. Poverty, as defined by an internationally comparable poverty line based on expenditure on a food and basic non-food goods basket, is close to 30 per cent today, down from over 70 per cent in the mid-1980s.

On the basis of Viet Nam's very low income per capita alone, the country could be considered one of the least developed countries. However, Viet Nam has achieved a relatively high level of social development. According to UNDP's *Human Development Report 1999*, Viet Nam ranks 110 out of 174 countries based on a composite "human development" index of life expectancy, educational attainment and income.

High levels of rural poverty and food insecurity persist, particularly in remote upland areas inhabited by ethnic minorities, and in some coastal provinces. Indeed, a striking 90 per cent of the families classified as living below the poverty line are located, and make their livelihoods, in rural areas. A better future for the rural poor is, however, within reach. With an enabling framework for rural development, strengthened institutions and policies in support of private farmers and entrepreneurs, further economic reform and sound rural investment, the destiny of rural areas can be turned around. Building on the successes of previous reform will have beneficial impacts on social development as well as on productivity. It will also help to enhance the livelihoods and well-being of particularly vulnerable groups,

including ethnic minorities, women, the underemployed and jobless, and the landless.

The Government has recognized the urgency of accelerating development in rural areas. Investment in rural infrastructure and services has been increased, and a number of support programmes have been initiated. Among them, National Programme for Hunger Eradication and Poverty Reduction (1996-2000) includes various poverty alleviation initiatives, with an emphasis on subsidized and directed credit. The 1,715 Poor Communes Programme (1998-2005) is seeking to generate income and employment, improve infrastructure and build local administrative capacity in the poorest areas. The Five Million Hectare Reforestation Programme (1998-2010), which builds on the Greening the Barren Hills Programme (programme 327), is aimed at speeding up reforestation activities, improving protection, providing raw materials for forest processing industries and creating new jobs for rural households. Lastly, but not least, the Rural Development Strategy being formulated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development will be critical in providing a comprehensive and guiding framework towards the year 2010.

FAO is particularly active in Viet Nam in the fields of nutrition, food security, agriculture, forestry and fisheries. Priority issues are food security and sustainable agricultural development, including forestry and agroforestry activities. The main focus of FAO's role in Viet Nam is on the provision of policy advice. For instance, current activities to support policy development include assistance to restructure the Agricultural Research System, support the transition to a newer type of cooperative system, formulate the National Programme for Food Security, mainstream gender concerns and support the Five Million Hectare Reforestation Programme. The Government highly appreciates FAO's neutral character. Donors often welcome the involvement of FAO in sensitive policy issues. Complementing this role in policy development and analysis at the national level, FAO continues to be involved in the planning, formulation and implementation of projects targeted at the rural poor in order to improve the quality of their lives. Examples of FAO's involvement in this area include aquaculture promotion, nutrition education, participatory watershed management, integrated pest management through participatory methods etc. In Viet Nam, FAO is also particularly active in the formulation of agricultural investment projects on behalf of a number of financial institutions (World Bank, Asian Development Bank, International Fund for Agricultural Development). Highly specialized technical advice is provided to the country, upon request (pest control, improvement of genetic resources, development of a market information network, agriculture insurance etc.) FAO is also playing a major role in coordinating activities in food security through a donor Government thematic group, established in mid-1999. Another technical working group on gender issues was recently established at the Ministry. The FAO representative is the permanent co-chairperson of the group, which is chaired by the Vice-Minister.

In the framework of United Nations agency collaboration, FAO has been working with the World Food Programme, UNDP and UNICEF. A proposal on gender dimensions for policy and programme planning in Viet Nam's transitional agriculture and rural development was submitted to UNDP for its consideration in August 1999. It is aimed at supporting the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development in the establishment of a technical working group on gender. The working group serves to strengthen the activities related to women's access to resources, opportunities and technologies in all the Ministry's technical activities. At

the same time, the working group also provides women-centred and research-based technical advice to the Ministry, other concerned technical institutions and international support groups in donor-funded projects and programmes and national-level policies for women in agriculture and rural development. The FAO representative is the co-vice-chairman of the working group.

The long-term vision for the joint donor/Government gender strategy is the social, economic and political advancement of women and gender equality in Viet Nam. It will entail creating an overall enabling policy environment, combined with a gender-aware society and gender-sensitive institutional structures, policy-making processes and practices. These will go beyond targeting women and family programmes and aim to analyse and influence macro and sectoral policies and programmes. The ultimate objective is to create a "level playing field" whereby women and men will be in an equal position to gain access to and utilize basic social services and factors of production and to make the necessary social, economic and political choices and decisions on issues, policies and programmes affecting their livelihoods and well-being.

This vision is owned first and foremost by the Government — through networks in every ministry and province — and at central and local levels. A number of donors have expressed their support, including UNDP, the World Bank, the Royal Netherlands Embassy, CIDA, Danida, AusAid, Ford Foundation, Asian Development Bank, UNICEF, FAO, UNIFEM, Oxfam GB etc.

The workshops (launching workshop, 26 October 2000; second plan of action for the advancement of women workshop, 8 November 2000; joint donor/Government working group workshop, 1 December 2000) generate a wider understanding of the issues and demonstrate the importance of addressing gender in all national and international sectoral plans and programmes, as well as the relevance of gender to all sectors.

It has been agreed that the socio-economic and gender analysis programme will be introduced and adapted in Viet Nam, through the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. FAO has been collaborating with the Ministry for the past two years. The regional women-in-development/gender officer in the FAO regional office for Asia and the Pacific (Bangkok, Thailand) was instrumental in establishing the technical working group. The group seeks to improve coordination among institutions inside and outside the Ministry and the donor community in instituting the integration of gender and women's issues into agriculture and rural development sectors. FAO has been involved in the process of designing, with the Ministry, a project involving the promotion of sustainable and equitable agricultural and rural development.